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LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey to you the text of the eighth report of the Multinational Force in Haiti (MNF), dated 9 January 1995, submitted to the Security Council in accordance with paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 940 (1994).

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and the accompanying assessment as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Madeleine K. ALBRIGHT
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Eighth report of the Multinational Force in Haiti

I. INTRODUCTION

1. United Nations Security Council resolution 940 (1994) authorizes "Member States to form a multinational force ... to use all necessary means to facilitate the departure from Haiti of the military leadership, consistent with the Governors Island Agreement, the prompt return of the legitimately elected President and the restoration of the legitimate authorities of the Government of Haiti, and to establish and maintain a secure and stable environment that will permit the implementation of the Governors Island Agreement." The resolution further requests States members of the multinational force "to report to the Security Council at regular intervals".

2. This is the eighth such report summarizing the operations of the multinational force in Haiti from 19 December 1994 to 9 January 1995. It reports the coalition's progress towards achieving the objectives laid out in resolution 940 (1994).

II. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

3. As the multinational force operation continues towards the transition to the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), the three-week period from 19 December to 8 January was characterized by continued security and stability in Haiti. The strength of the multinational force is 7,412 troops and 717 international police monitors. The combination of international police monitors deployments to 10 locations throughout the country, Interim Public Security Force deployments in 25 locations outside Port-au-Prince, the continued presence of forces of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in Cap Haitien, and the addition of contracted security personnel in Port-au-Prince contributed significantly to this objective and allowed the continued drawdown of multinational force levels. The multinational forces continued their presence operations in outlying areas, visiting all 133 districts by the end of December. Special Forces have conducted operations in over 500 towns, and are based in 27 locations. The security situation in Haiti is positive, with multinational force efforts focused on continuing the development of the Haitian security system and establishing the conditions for the transition to UNMIH.

4. One exception to the general environment of stability came on 26 December. The Forces armées d'Haiti concerns about a sharp reduction in force and uncertainty about pay and retirement benefits resulted in a period of growing tension between the Forces armées and the Government of Haiti. This culminated in a brief eruption of violence 26 December at Forces armées headquarters. Multinational force forces reacting to the disturbance moved immediately to the Forces armées headquarters and engaged armed members. An analysis of the incident revealed a spontaneous event resulting from poor communications which confused and upset the soldiers and led them to believe they would lose their jobs and pay. The incident resulted in three members of the Forces armées

killed and six wounded. There were no multinational force casualties and the situation has been calm in the following days.

5. The Government of Haiti has reiterated its intention to provide for the interim police, the new military and those separated from the military. President Aristide spoke to these concerns in his 1 January address, saying that his Government will make efforts to absorb demobilized soldiers into the workforce. During the past two weeks, incidents of violence among Haitians were minimal and primarily criminal in nature. In order to reduce crime further, the multinational force has conducted additional daily patrols from 0100 to 0500 hours in high-crime areas in the Port-au-Prince port area and in Petionville. In Cap Haitien, the CARICOM contingent has expanded its sector to include most of the city. This has freed the Guatemalan contingent to conduct other operations such as show-of-presence missions in outlying areas.

6. Multinational force static security requirements in Port-au-Prince have been significantly reduced since 16 December, when a private security company assumed responsibility for securing some government properties, including the Mayor's office and the legislative buildings.

7. The expansion of the multinational force into the outlying areas continues. By the end of December 1994, the multinational force will have had a force presence in all 133 subdistricts of Haiti. Conventional infantry units continue an aggressive campaign to expand the multinational force presence throughout the country by providing force presence for periods of one to two days to areas not visited previously. Multinational force forces continue to be welcomed into the outlying areas by the local population. Missions completed in this period include Mole St. Nicolas, St. Michel de l'Atalaye, Labadi, Pilate and Belladere. Bangladeshi and Guatemalan contingents have participated in these operations.

8. The threat to multinational force forces remains low. Isolated incidents of crime within the Port-au-Prince area and the need to assess arms control and reduction measures have prompted the multinational force to continue to plan and execute force-presence operations within Port-au-Prince. The multinational force continued local patrols and roadblocks, which have proven to be very productive and will continue as a deterrent to crime. Results have indicated that essentially no weapons are being moved or carried by the general public in Port-au-Prince.

9. In this period, the weapons control programme took in a total of 117 weapons and 592 HE/CS devices. The total number of weapons that have either been seized or bought in weapons control programmes since the beginning of the multinational force is 20,345, including 5,853 grenades and 1,736 machine-guns.

III. ESTABLISHING A SECURE AND STABLE ENVIRONMENT

10. During the period covered by the present report, clear progress continued on the establishment of the Haitian Interim Public Security Force. The multinational force, with assistance from the international police monitors, continues to make significant progress with the establishment of the Interim

Public Security Force. The acceptance of the Interim Public Security Force in the country has improved markedly, especially in the southern half of Haiti.

11. The international police monitors continue to coach, mentor and monitor the Interim Public Security Force. On 17 December, 482 students graduated from the eighth cycle of the six-day transition course for the Interim Public Security Force. This cycle included students from the Port-au-Prince military units and from the north-east department. This was the final regular cycle and brought the total number of Interim Public Security Force graduates to 2,990. Interim Public Security Force personnel are deployed in 26 locations throughout Haiti.

12. The second group of Guantanamo police trainees graduated on 16 December from their five-day orientation course given by the Ministry of Defence at Lamentin Barracks in Port-au-Prince. This group was designated to work in Port-au-Prince, and reported for work at police headquarters on 26 December. The third group of 243 Guantanamo police trainees arrived in Haiti on 17 December, received a similar orientation course, and were transported by the multinational force to work locations in Port de Paix, Cap Haitien, Fort Liberté, Hinche, Gonaives, and St. Marc. The fourth and final group of 211 trainees arrived on 23 December, and began their orientation.

13. The multinational force continues to assist local governments and civil action projects with the priority of effort to road repair and food distribution. The multinational force also continues to conduct joint operations with the United States Coast Guard. The Coast Guard provides resources enabling the multinational force to enter from the sea into areas not accessible by road. Finally, the ongoing coordination and assistance with respect to non-governmental organizations and private voluntary organizations continues to be a force behind the restoration of stable conditions in Haiti.

14. A generic check-list was developed by multinational force engineers to assess prisons, police stations and schools in the outlying areas. Civil affairs officers coordinated the opening of a new Haitian police station in the Cité Soleil section of Port-au-Prince on 21 December 1994. Civil affairs also coordinated the delivery of school supply kits to Cap Haitien, Mirabalis, Brande Savane, Donte, and Fort Jaques.

15. On the elections front, the nine-member election committee has been named. The United States Agency for International Development and the United Nations are developing plans to support the elections.